#2 The One Grapefruit Pie
グレープフルーツのパイ一つ

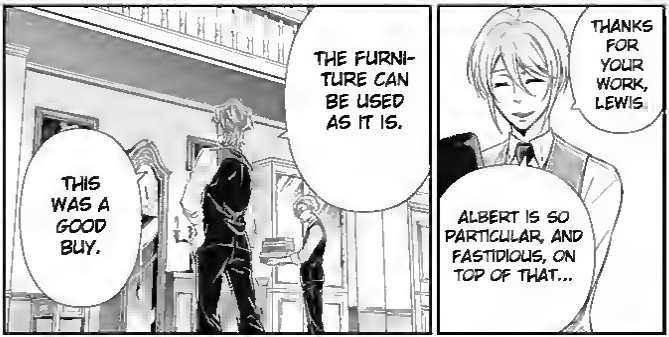
憂国のモリアーティ

LORD LOWELL WAS KILLED IN AN ACCIDENT!
The Lo
From FRIDAY, May 5,
Fatal Accident !
Lord of Parliament Lowell killed
THAT'S THE WAY CORRUPT NOBLES DESERVE TO DIE, EH?
IT'S GOING TO BE ROUGH IN PARLIAMENT AGAIN...
RUMOUR IS HE HAD CROOKED STOCK DEALINGS, RIGHT?
BROTHER ...
THIS MAP IS TOO DETAILED...
IT'S A BIT...
...SIGH...

WATCH OUT, YOU STUPID WOMAN!
BARON DUBLIN IS RIDING IN HERE!
QUICK, GET OUT OF THE WAY!
...ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
ARE YOU HURT—

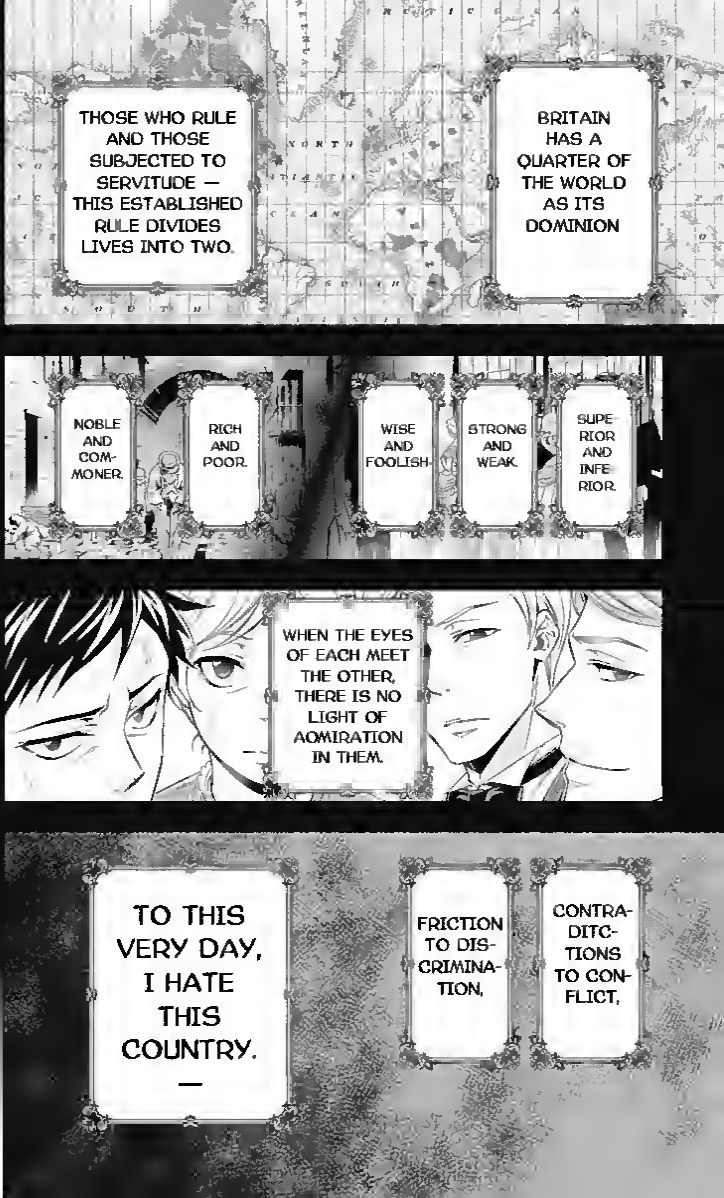
I'M HOME.
SORRY I'M LATE,
I GOT LOST ALONG THE WAY THIS TIME.
HAVE YOU FINISHED CLEANING?

WELCOME BACK, WILLIAM.
WE'VE JUST FINISHED.
LEWIS ALSO HELPED A LOT.
IT WAS SO DIRTY AT THE START..


THANKS FOR YOUR WORK, LEWIS.
ALBERT IS SO PARTICULAR, AND FASTIDIOUS, ON TOP OF THAT...
THE FURNITURE CAN BE USED AS IT IS.
THIS WAS A GOOD BUY.

GLAD TO MEET YOU.
WELL THEN, LET'S HAVE DINNER, SHALL WE?

THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE TODAY.
MY NAME IS MORIARTY.
...
...YOU'RE WELCOME.
MY LORD.
THE AGE OF PAX BRITAN-NICA.
—


THOSE WHO RULE AND THOSE SUBJECTED TO SERVITUDE — THIS ESTABLISHED RULE DIVIDES LIVES INTO TWO.
BRITAIN HAS A QUARTER OF THE WORLD AS ITS DOMINION
NOBLE AND COM-MONER.
RICH AND POOR.
WISE AND FOOLISH.
STRONG AND WEAK.
SUPE-RIOR AND INFE-RIOR.
WHEN THE EYES OF EACH MEET THE OTHER, THERE IS NO LIGHT OF ADMIRATION IN THEM.
TO THIS VERY DAY, I HATE THIS COUNTRY. —
FRICTION TO DIS-CRIMINA-TION,
CONTRA-DITC-TIONS TO CON-FLICT,

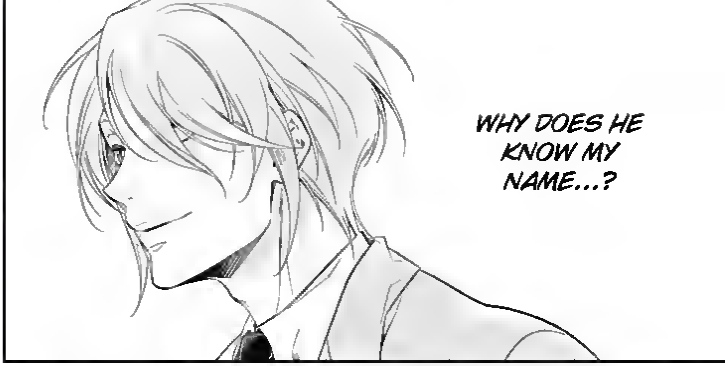
A WALKING NOBLEMAN!
I THOUGHT THEIR FEET WERE JUST DECORATIONS!
YOUNG MASTER, CAN'T USE YOUR CARRIAGE?
... LOOK!
MAYBE HE'S FROM A RUINED FAMILY.
HE'S BUYING UP-COUNTRY PROPERTY, I TELL YA.
NOBODY WOULD SELL HIM ANY, SO A REAL ESTATE AGENT SOLD HIM SOME DIRT CHEAP!
ダン
…!?

GOOD MORNING.
I'M WILLIAM JAMES MORIARTY.
I BECAME THE SECOND SON OF EARL MORIARTY.
I MOVED HERE FROM LONDON FOR SCHOOL.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
EARL ...?!
COULD IT BE THAT FAMOUS FAMILY..
ALL THE WAY FROM LONDON...
THANKFULLY, OUR HOUSE HAS NOT FALLEN INTO RUIN JUST YET.
THESE DAYS, YOU CAN'T KNOW WHEN OR HOW A HOUSE WILL FALL,
SO, AS YOU SAID, SINCE WE'RE SAVING MONEY AND IT WAS CHEAP, THAT ESTATE IS NOW IN OUR HANDS.

THE NOBLES WE KNOW ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...
IS THAT SO?
...ARE YOU REALLY A NOBLE?
AH? AH... IT IS AMAZING!
BUT THE SIZE OF THE LAND... AND MOREOVER, THE MANSION IS FURNISHED, AMAZING, DON'T YOU THINK?
THIS IS EMBARRASSING, SO LET'S KEEP IT BETWEEN OURSELVES. MY OLDER BROTHER BARGAINED FROM THE SELLING PRICE.
THAT'S NOT HOW WE WANT TO BE.
INDEED, BECAUSE MANY OF THOSE GIVEN THE LIFE OF NOBILITY ACT AS IF THEY ARE GODS,
...SEND THE GUV'NOR OVER, WILL YA?...
...I'M OUT OF TIME.
GOT TO RUN, OR ELSE-
...IS THIS SCHOOL OF YOURS DURHAM UNIVERSITY?

OVER-SLEPT AGAIN?
MORNING, PROFES-SOR!
THAT'S VERY —
"PRO-FES-SOR"?
QUITE A NICKNAME, DON'T YOU THINK?
WE'RE BOTH BARELY MAKING IT!
MORNING, TATE!
YOU'RE RIDING A STYLISH CARRIAGE TODAY!
I'M A MATHEMATICS PROFESSOR HERE.
BUT IT'S TRUE.

THE STUDENTS ARE ALREADY WAITING! HURRY!
PROFESSOR MORIARTY!
YES, VICE-CHANCEL-LOR!
!!?
...AH?
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING ME HERE, MR. BARTON!
SORRY, ANOTHER TIME!
...FELT LIKE HE COULD READ MY MIND...
WHAT A STRANGE GUY TO COME HERE...
ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT HIM, HE'S NOT A STUDENT...
NEXT TIME, YES?
YOU CHANGED RESI-DENCE, DIDN'T YOU?
COULD I COME VISIT YOUR NEW PLACE?
... HUH?


WHY DOES HE KNOW MY NAME...?

IT'S ABOUT A 20- MINUTE WALK HOME FROM THE UNIVERSITY, HUH? JUST THE RIGHT DISTANCE ...

YES.
YOU?
...YOU'RE BUYING?
...EEH, WELCO-...
MAY I HAVE SOME APPLES?

YOU MUST BE THE PROFESSOR MORIARTY OF RUMOUR?
...I SEEEE.
THE ONE WHO USED BARTON AS HIS LEGS.
...FIRST TIME A NOBLE'S BUYING SOMETHING FROM ME...
BESIDES, WE BROTHERS CAN GET BY ON OUR OWN WITHOUT HIRING HELP.
WE JUST ARRIVED, SO WE DON'T HAVE ANY SERVANTS YET.
HIHI... THAT'S THE TALK IN THE TOWN.
DESPITE APPEARANCES, THAT'S GOOD, RIGHT?
IS THAT SO?
BECAUSE HE'S THE PEACE-MAKER AROUND HERE, EH?
...STILL,
YOU'LL NEVER BE ONE OF US TOWNSFOLK, NOT EVER.
EVEN IF YOU GET FRIENDLY WITH US, US FOLKS AND YOU ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT CREATURES.

...IT'S AS IF THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN ARE ALL AFFLICTED BY THE SAME DESPAIR.
COULD YOU PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT IT?
THE TRUTH IS, OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM, I HAVE ANOTHER OCCUPATION.
I'M A PRIVATE CONSULTANT.

I WILL TRY TO SOLVE IT.
THAT WHICH WEIGHS ON YOUR HEART,
THE FIRST, WHICH CAME TO AN END SOME YEARS AGO, WERE THE PREVIOUS OWNERS OF YOUR ESTATE.
...HERE IN DURHAM, TWO FAMILIES HAVE RULED OVER US FOR GENERATIONS.
THE OTHER, FURTHER EAST OF HERE, IS THE HOUSE OF LORD DUBLIN.
... HMPH.
CONFRONTING THE ELDERLY... CHEEKY BOY.
ALL THIS WHILE, THE TOWNSFOLK HAVE BEEN MADE TO SUFFER BY THOSE TWO HOUSES...

"DEVILS SOONEST TEMPT, RESEMBLING SPIRITS OF LIGHT."
WAS IT SHAKESPEARE WHO SAID THAT? THEY'RE THE WORDS OF AN OLD PLAY-WRIGHT.
THOUGH WE WANT TO STRIKE BACK AGAINST THE NOBLES, IF THINGS DON'T GO WELL AND WE'RE CAUGHT, WE'LL BE FLOGGED.
THE WAY THINGS ARE NOW IS STILL PREFERABLE TO BECOMING CRIMINALS AND PLUMBING THE DEPTHS.
THEIR ANCESTORS FIRST RENTED LAND CHEAPLY TO US POOR FOLK. THEY EVEN BOUGHT US THE LATEST TOOLS.
BUT THEIR DESCENDANTS INCREASED THE RENT, AND FORCIBLY TOOK THE TENANT FARMERS' EARNINGS.
THE MONEY LEFT WAS BARELY ENOUGH FOR THEM NOT TO STARVE TO DEATH...
...ALL OF US ARE THEIR SLAVES...

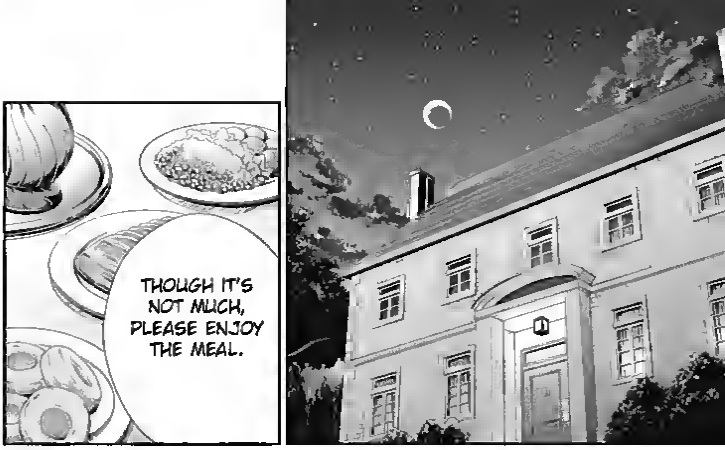
ADVICE FROM SOMEONE WHO'S COME TO SEE THIS COUNTRY'S HISTORY.
LOWER-CLASS PEOPLE LIKE US LIVE OUR OWN LIVES AT A DISTANCE AS A RESULT.
BUT YOU'RE STILL THE SAME AS THOSE PEOPLE ON THE OTHER SIDE.
...I'M NOT SAYING ALL NOBLES ARE EVIL.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THEIR FARMLAND IS APPARENTLY PART OF OUR ESTATE.
...AH, WELCOME BACK, WILL.
BROTHER?
I...IS THIS NOT ENOUGH ...?!
HE BROUGHT ME THIS MONTH'S PAYMENT, BUT...
...BATTERED HANDS...

THE CURRENT ARRANGEMENT IS CANCELLED.
NEXT SUNDAY, WE'LL SURVEY EACH OF YOUR PLOTS.
THE COLLECTION AMOUNTS WILL NOW BE ACCORDING TO LAND AREA.
...THIS IS WRONG...
.....

...SORRY FOR THE SUDDEN CHANGE.
YOU'VE BECOME SO SERIOUS.
DID YOU GIVE A NEW CONSULTATION?
...NO.

I WAS TOLD THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO.
...IT'S AS IF, AT A GLANCE, YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THE PREVIOUS NOBLES HERE DID TO THOSE MEN.

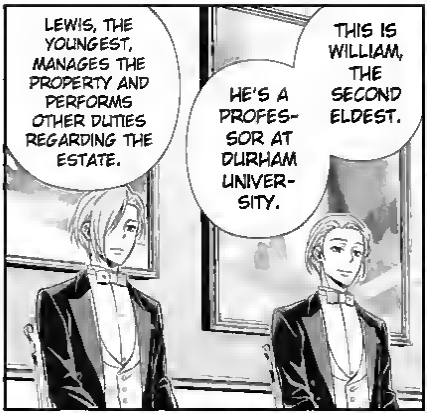
THOSE ARE THE EYES OF THE SUBJU-GATED...
AT ALL TIMES...
WHEREVER YOU GO...
"HELL IS EMPTY."
"AND ALL THE DEVILS ARE HERE."

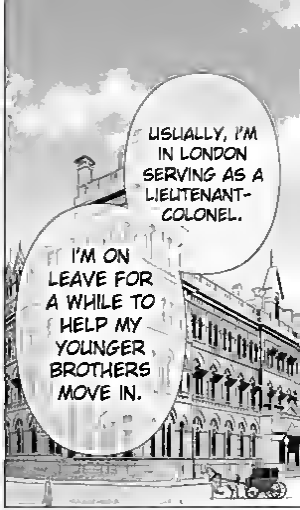

THOUGH IT'S NOT MUCH, PLEASE ENJOY THE MEAL.

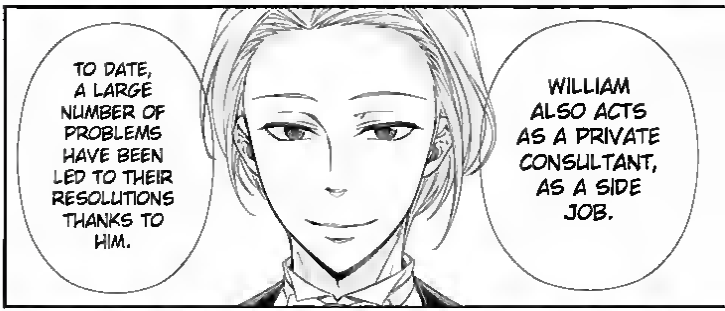
THANK YOU FOR HOSTING A WELCOME DINNER SPECIALLY FOR US, LORD DUBLIN.

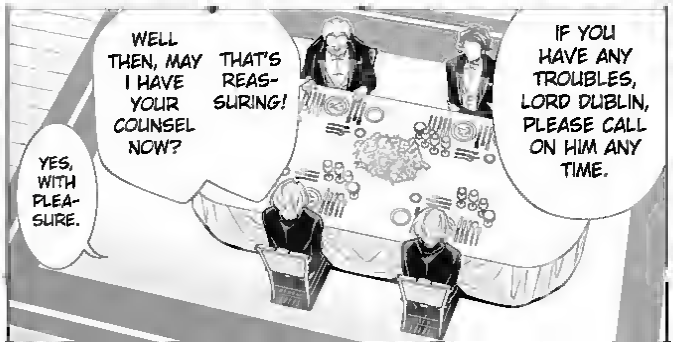
WE FELLOW MASTERS OF DURHAM SHOULD KEEP EACH OTHER COMPANY!
NOT AT ALL!

FOR QUITE A WHILE NOW, I'VE BEEN BORED HERE WITHOUT ANYONE NEARBY TO TALK TO!
HERE'S SOME LAMB!
AND WINE, TOO!
DO HAVE SOME YOURSELF, LORD DUBLIN.
ACTUALLY, MY HEART IS A BIT WEAK.
SADLY, MY DOCTOR HAD ME STOP TAKING ALCOHOL.
LOOK, HE'S KEEPING WATCH OVER THERE!
HA HA HA! MY SYMPATHIES!
NEVERTHELESS, YOU'RE SURPRISINGLY YOUNG FOR A HEAD OF A FAMILY.
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF.
MY NAME IS ALBERT JAMES MORIARTY.
WHEN WE WERE CHILDREN, OUR PARENTS DIED IN THE FIRE THAT BURNT DOWN OUR MANSION.
AND SO, AT THE TIME I INHERITED THE TITLE AND POSITION OF EARL, I WAS STILL AN INEXPERIENCED YOUTH.
GOODNESS... THAT IS SUCH A PITY.


LEWIS, THE YOUNGEST, MANAGES THE PROPERTY AND PERFORMS OTHER DUTIES REGARDING THE ESTATE.
THIS IS WILLIAM, THE SECOND ELDEST.
HE'S A PROFESSOR AT DURHAM UNIVERSITY.


USUALLY, I'M IN LONDON SERVING AS A LIEUTENANT-COLONEL.
I'M ON LEAVE FOR A WHILE TO HELP MY YOUNGER BROTHERS MOVE IN.


TO DATE, A LARGE NUMBER OF PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN LED TO THEIR RESOLUTIONS THANKS TO HIM.
WILLIAM ALSO ACTS AS A PRIVATE CONSULTANT, AS A SIDE JOB.


WELL THEN, MAY I HAVE YOUR COUNSEL NOW?
THAT'S REASSURING!
IF YOU HAVE ANY TROUBLES, LORD DUBLIN, PLEASE CALL ON HIM ANY TIME.
YES, WITH PLEASURE.

I HAVE NEITHER KITH NOR KIN.
YES, THAT'S IT.
SO, COULD I ASK YOU TO TRY LOOKING FOR ESTRANGED RELATIVES ON MY LATE WIFE'S SIDE?
YOU HAVE NO HEIR TO YOUR ESTATE...IS WHAT YOU MEAN TO SAY?
I WAS BEREAVED OF MY WIFE ABOUT 15 YEARS AGO,
THOUGH IT'S NOT EXACTLY A TROUBLE,
AND SINCE WE HAD NO CHIL-DREN...
.....I'M TERRIBLY SORRY...
BUT IF YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR A PERSON, ASKING ANY OF THOSE DETECTIVE BUREAUS COULD BE FASTER AND MORE RELIABLE.
...SPEAKING OF ESTATES, LORD DUBLIN,
IN ANY CASE, I WILL CER-TAINLY TRY THAT!
NO, THAT WAS HELP-FUL!
MY APOLO-GIES FOR NOT BEING OF HELP.
DETEC-TIVE...

IT SEEMS THIS TOWN'S TENANT FARMERS PAY A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF RENT.
THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S US NOBLES' MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME.
THOUGH THIS IS THE COUNTRY, WHEN SOCIAL SEASON COMES, IT'S EXPENSIVE.
SERVANTS' WAGES ARE ALSO NOT INSIG-NIFICANT.
TO MAIN-TAIN THIS LIFESTYLE, THERE IS NO OTHER WAY.
THEY ARE OUR COUNTRY'S LIVESTOCK, SO TO SPEAK.

THAT IS SO.
HAVING MOVED FROM PLACE TO PLACE ACROSS ENGLAND, WE'VE FOUND NOBLES TO BE THE SAME EVERYWHERE.
HOWEVER, AS YOU SEE, OUR HOUSE CONSISTS OF ONLY US THREE BROTHERS.
WE'RE MORE CASUAL THAN YOU
THEREFORE,
WHAT DO YOU SAY TO US FURTHER LOWERING OUR LAND RENT?
THAT... THAT WON'T DO AT ALL, EARL!
OH, WHY IS THAT?
ガタッ!
IF SUCH A THING IS DONE, THE TENANTS ON LAND OVER HERE WILL BE SURE TO TALK!
IN THE WORLD, BALANCE IS IMPORTANT IN ALL THINGS!

IF IT IS AS YOU SAY, ALL THE MORE WE SHOULD.
WHILE WE LIVE IN LUXURY, THE TOWNSPEOPLE STRUGGLE TO EARN A LIVING.
IS THAT NOT AN IMBALANCE?
... WELL, THAT...
WHEN YOU ARE CONCEITED FROM THE CLASS SYSTEM,
YOU WILL RECEIVE RETRIBUTION FROM YOUR LIVESTOCK SOMEDAY.
...REALLY, WHAT KIND OF EDUCATION GIVES THESE SORTS OF IDEAS?
"LOWER CLASSES EXTRACTING RETRIBUTION ON NOBILITY"?
ARE WE NOT RELIABLY PROTECTED BY THE COUNTRY AND THE LAW?
RIDICULOUS.

DID YOU HEAR?
EARL MORIARTY'S RENT FELL BY SO MUCH!
MY PARENTS' FARM IS NOW AT 1/7 OF THE PREVIOUS RENT!
WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE MONEY, THEY'LL ACCEPT YOUR HARVEST, I HEARD!
ARE YOU SERI-OUS?
SO GOOD!
I WANT TO BE EVICTED FROM THAT FAT BARON'S LAND AND MOVE TO EARL MORIARTY'S LAND, TOO...
THE VALUE OF YOUR LAND IS THROUGH THE ROOF.
WELL DONE, YOUNG WISE ONE.
YOUNG WISE ONE?
SINCE WE HAVE LOTS HERE AND THERE, WE JUST SOMEHOW BROUGHT DOWN THEIR RENTS ONE BY ONE.
MY, MY!
YOU HAVE THAT MUCH MONEY TO THROW AWAY?
WELL THAT'S

THE LAND-LORDS OVER HERE ARE ALWAYS THE SAME.
HOW MUCH LONGER ARE YOU PEOPLE GOING TO PLAY AT LOOKING ALL ADMIRABLE?
MR. BARTON, YOUR ORCHARD WAS ON LORD DUBLIN'S LAND, RIGHT?
AAH... LAND DOESN'T MOVE.
NO CHOICE...
IF IT ISN'T MICHELLE!
!
...OH,

GOOD DAY, MS. SUSANNA.
IT'S BEEN SO LONG!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT ALREADY?
YES ...
IT WOULDN'T DO TO SHUT MYSELF AT HOME FOR-EVER.
... OH?
LORD WILLIAM ...
YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?
HE KINDLY HELPED ME THE OTHER DAY WHEN I FELL OVER AFTER GOING OUT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE.

DO YOU NEED SOME-THING?
...OH, YES...
NOT AT ALL.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR KINDNESS.
...A GRAPEFRUIT, PLEASE...
... ...OF COURSE.
THEY'RE DELICIOUSLY TART.
YOUR HUSBAND FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN GROWING THEM.

THEN I DON'T NEED IT ...
.....
...OH, ...
...A THING GROWN IN THAT TAINTED LAND.....
...WHAT THAT WAS ABOUT IS ...
...THREE YEARS AGO, ...
OUR CHILD DIED OF PNEUMONIA...

DOCTOR -!!!
BARTON! MICHELLE!
UNFORTUNATELY, THE TOWN DOCTOR WASN'T IN ON THAT DAY.
DOCTOR !!
MAYBE HE'S ON A HOUSE CALL...!
AND HE'S HAVING DIFFICULTY BREATHING!
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING!
OUR SON HAS A TERRIBLE FEVER...!
RIGHT! LET'S HURRY!
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, LORD DUBLIN'S PERSONAL DOCTOR MUST BE AT HIS MANSION.
THAT'S NOT...!
HE'S AT HIS DAUGHTER'S WEDDING...
HE'LL BE BACK TONIGHT.

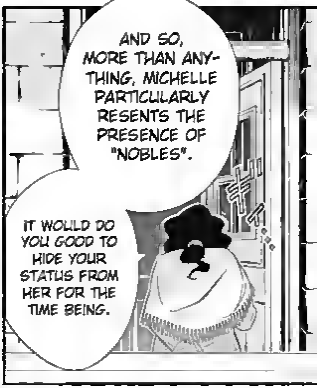
BUT...
WE CALLED TO MAKE A REQUEST!!
THAT'S NOT WHY WE'RE HERE!!
HIS LORDSHIP IS CURRENTLY ENTERT. INING GUESTS.
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY.
...AAH -!!!
MY LORD...
HOW ANNOY- ING...
S-SORRY, BUT...!
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH IT COST, YOU FOOLS!!
YOU DIRTIED THE NEWLY- BOUGHT CARPET!
STOP !!!

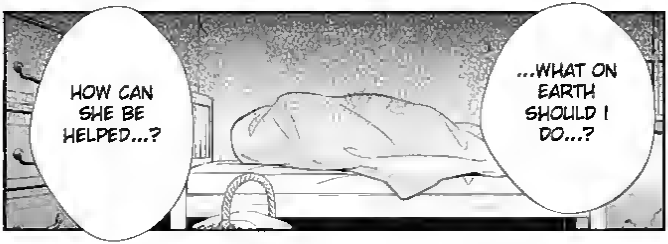
YOU WANT ME TO LEND YOU MY DOCTOR?
...
...WHAT?
ヒュ
ヒュ
AAH.
IT'S YOUR TURN!
HURRY UP, DUBLIN.
LET HIM CONTINUE TO SLEEP AND HE'LL BE WELL SOON.
A COMMON COLD.
I'M GOING NOW.
MEDI-CINE, AT LEAST ...
PLEASE, WE BEG YOU!!
NO, EVEN JUST WATER...!!
...
TCH!
THE MANSION IS HUGE.
I FORGOT WHICH ROOM HE'S IN.
EXCUSE ME... YOUR DOCTOR ...!

HOW MUCH CAN YOU PAY FOR WATER?
.....
...YOU LOT,
I DON'T ESCAPE,
I DON'T FIGHT, I'M... I'M-...
.....CURSE HIM...
I AM... I CONTINUE TO USE THAT MAN'S LAND...

BY ANY CHANCE, DO YOU ALSO DO THINGS LIKE COUPLES' COUNSELLING?

...YOUNG WISE ONE,


AND SO, MORE THAN ANY-THING, MICHELLE PARTICULARLY RESENTS THE PRESENCE OF "NOBLES".
IT WOULD DO YOU GOOD TO HIDE YOUR STATUS FROM HER FOR THE TIME BEING.

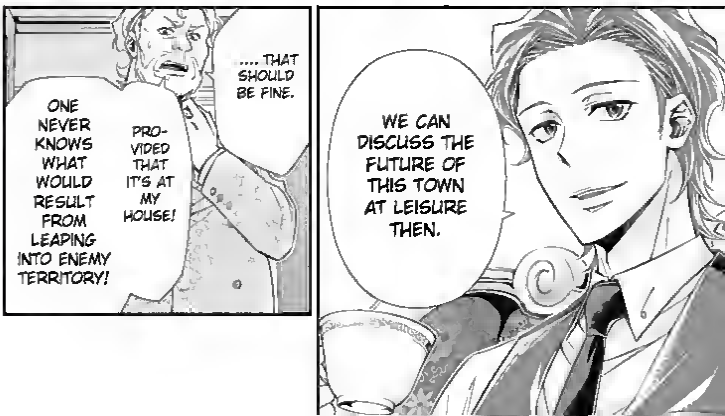

HOW CAN SHE BE HELPED...?
...WHAT ON EARTH SHOULD I DO...?

.....IF HE WERE TO DISAP-PEAR...

WE HAVE A PROBLEM, EARL MORIARTY!!
MY FARMERS ARE APPEALING TO LOWER THEIR RENTS AND ABOLISH OTHER PAYMENTS!
AND ON TOP OF THAT, THERE ARE ONES SUGGESTING THEY WANT TO RETURN THEIR FARMLAND AND MOVE TO YOUR LAND!
AND IF THAT HAPPENS, THEY'LL IMMEDIATELY BE ABLE TO REPAY THEIR DEBTS FOR THE EQUIPMENT I LENT THEM!
...IF HE WERE
TO DIE.....

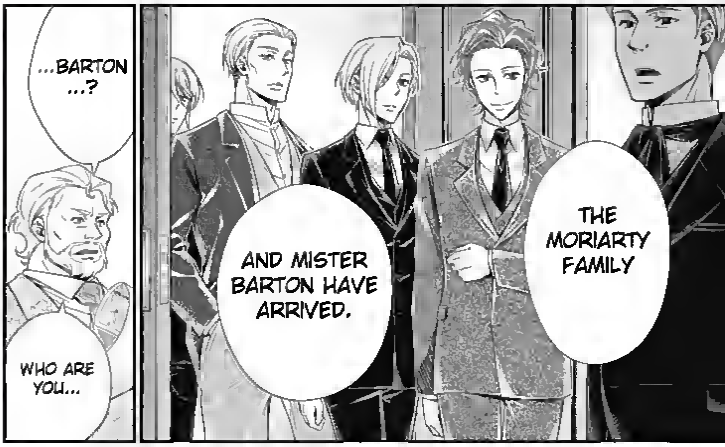
DO YOU WANT ME TO CEASE BEING A RESPECT-ABLE MAN?!
I'LL FALL FROM HIGH SOCIETY, YOU KNOW?!
IF THAT KEEPS ON, MY INCOME WILL TAPER OFF AND MY ESTATE WILL GO BANKRUPT!

...WON'T YOU HAVE DINNER WITH US TONIGHT?
.....MIGHT YOU BE INSTIGATING THE TOWNS-FOLK?!


.... THAT SHOULD BE FINE.
PRO-VIDED THAT IT'S AT MY HOUSE!
ONE NEVER KNOWS WHAT WOULD RESULT FROM LEAPING INTO ENEMY TERRITORY!
WE CAN DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THIS TOWN AT LEISURE THEN.

NO CHIL-
DREN. FOUR
SERVANTS, A
PERSONAL
DOCTOR.
HEART
PROB-
LEMS...
BEREAVED
OF A
WIFE.
.....BARON
LENNY
DUBLIN.
THE CLIENT'S
INFORMATION
SEEMS
ACCURATE
THIS TIME,
TOO,
RIGHT,
BROTHER?
...

FROM THIS PLOT, NEXT MONTH I WILL RECEIVE.....
TSK
MY LORD,


...BARTON ...?
WHO ARE YOU...
AND MISTER BARTON HAVE ARRIVED.
THE MORIARTY FAMILY

I WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING.
THE TENANT FARMERS' REPRESEN-TATIVE.

I BROUGHT SOME-THING.
THANK YOU.
WE WILL PUT THEM INTO A PIE LATER.
..CHECK THEM FOR POISON, JUST IN CASE.
HOW COULD YOU THINK THAT?!
?
...AH, YES, LORD DUBLIN,
WOULD YOU MIND IF WE ADDED ONE MORE GUEST?
!?
MICHELLE ...!?

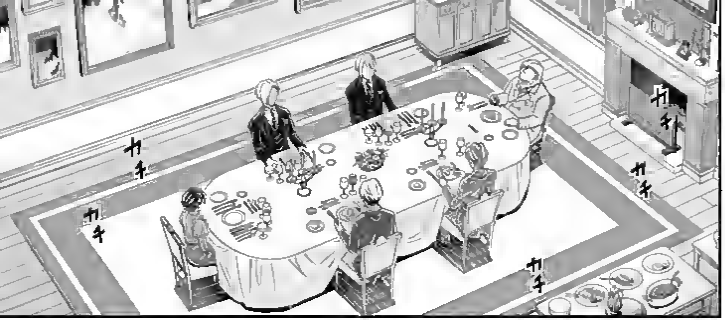
MY LORD, PLEASE DON'T DRINK...
I KNOW!
BUFFET-STYLE IS FINE, FOR TONIGHT.
ALL SERVANTS ARE DISMISSED.
.....HMPH... FEEL FREE.
WHY...

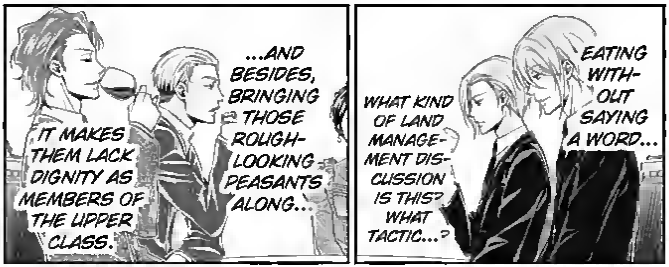
BATTLE? THAT'S A STRONG WORD.

.....SO YOU THINK YOU WILL WIN THIS BATTLE IF YOU BRING IN ALLIES?

カチ
カチ
カチ

...SHAN'T WE ENJOY THE MEAL BEFOREHAND?
IT'S BEEN SO GRACIOUSLY PREPARED.




EATING WITH-OUT SAYING A WORD...
WHAT KIND OF LAND MANAGE-MENT DIS-CUSSION IS THIS? WHAT TACTIC...?
...AND BESIDES, BRINGING THOSE ROUGH-LOOKING PEASANTS ALONG..
IT MAKES THEM LACK DIGNITY AS MEMBERS OF THE UPPER CLASS.

QUICKLY FINISH DESSERT AND LET THE BATTLE CALL
THEY'RE JUST KIDS WHO TOOK UP THEIR POSITIONS TOO YOUNG...

W-WHAT'S THE MATTER ...?
IF YOU WANT TO EAT, YOU MAY...
ODD WOMAN...
HOW DO YOU FIND THE TASTE, LORD DUBLIN?
.....?
...I-IS THAT SO...
THE GRAPE-FRUITS WERE PERSONALLY GROWN BY MR. BARTON.

...AS I THOUGHT, YOU DON'T EVEN KEEP TRACK OF YOUR OWN TENANT FARMERS.
...IN THAT CASE,
YOU SURELY MUST HAVE FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE CHILD YOU ALLOWED TO DIE THAT DAY.
.....
A CHILD, YOU SAY ...?
WHEN DID I .....

...
...Y-YOU-
...
WHAT DID YOU COME HERE TO DO?!
SOME-ONE...-!!
.....!!

THIS IS SIMPLY A DISCUSSION ABOUT LAND.
IT'S YOU WHO TAKE OFFENCE, LORD DUBLIN.
...YOU LOT ARE IN LEAGUE WITH THEM, TOO?!
WHAT SORT OF HARASS-MENT IS THIS!!

DIDN'T I TELL YOU BEFORE?
ABOUT WILLIAM'S OTHER JOB.

.....YOU HARDLY COME FACE-TO-FACE WITH PEOPLE OUTSIDE OF YOUR OWN CLASS...
YOU DON'T WALK OUTSIDE ON YOUR OWN, EITHER...
I WANTED TO DRAG YOU OUT BEFORE ME SOMEHOW.
SO I HAD A "CONSULTATION" WITH HIM.
...NOW, AS PER THIS CLIENT'S REQUEST ...
.....TSK...

CRIME CONSULTANT WILLIAM JAMES MORIARTY
HAS COME TO HAND DOWN YOUR PUNISHMENT.
PUNISH-MENT...?!
HUH ...

WHAT THE DEVIL DID I DO WRONG?
HMPH..
YOU'RE KIDDING ME, ALL OF YOU...!
YOU HAVE ONE LESS USELESS MOUTH TO FEED!! BE GRATE-FUL!!
EVEN IF HE LIVED TO ADULTHOOD, WITH THAT POOR HEALTH, HE'D HARDLY BE ABLE TO DO PHYSICAL LABOUR!
WAS LETTING YOUR BRAT DIE A CRIME?
BETTER HURRY UP AND INCREASE YOUR NEXT HARVEST!!!
FROM THIS MONTH, YOUR RENT AND DUES ARE DOUBLED!!

AAAAAAAH!
AAAAAA!
IT'S NO USE, MICHELLE!
IT'S NOT-...
HE'S RIGHT, MS. MICHELLE.

ONCE I ACCEPT A REQUEST, I EXECUTE IT PERFECTLY.
THEREFORE, IF IT'S NOT A PERFECT CRIME, IT'S POINTLESS.
IF SOMEONE CONCLUDED THERE WAS AN INCIDENT HERE, IT WOULD BE UNFORGIVABLE.
.....
HAH...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND...!
ゴクン
ゴクン
WHAT A FARCE!!
I'LL HAND THAT WOMAN TO THE POLICE FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER!!!
...DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE ALLIES IN THIS TOWN?

DURHAM IS NO LONGER YOUR POSSESSION.
……!
EVERYONE IN THIS TOWN IS ON MORIARTY'S SIDE…!
……I…
…NO,

YOU DO UNDER-STAND?
WAS ALL TO THIS END…?!
DON'T TELL ME LOWERING THE RENTS AND WINNING OVER PEOPLE'S HEARTS

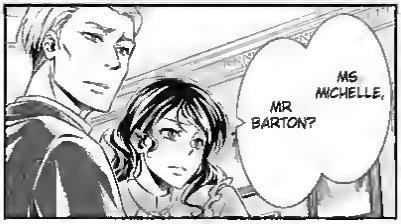
LORD DUBLIN.
THIS IS ALL PART OF MY SCHEME,

MY HEART...
HA-.
...DAMN...
.....
...HAA-...
...M-MEDI-CINE.....
WATER...!!
...MEDI-CINE AND...
P-PLEA SE...
THAT SHELF THERE... T-THE FIRST LEVEL...!

HOW MUCH CAN YOU PAY FOR WATER?
...YOU,
T-... TEN TIMES-...
.....!
TEN TIMES AS MUCH AS THAT WOMAN PAID YOU!!
IS THAT ENOUGH ...!!
.....!?
MY PAYMENT WAS ZERO POUNDS, ZERO SHILLINGS, AND ZERO PENCE.
..... THAT'S ZERO.

I OFFERED MY LIFE TO LORD MORIARTY.
AS PAYMENT,
...NOW, TIME FOR MATHS.
!!?
.....
I...
IN THAT CASE, WILL YOU PAY ME IN 20 LIVES?
ZERO TIMES TEN IS STILL ZERO...

I'M SORRY ...
...PLEASE FORGIVE ME
FOR EVERY-THING I'VE DONE IN THE PAST...!


MS MICHELLE, MR BARTON?

...WHAT SHALL WE DO?

T-THERE... WRITTEN ...

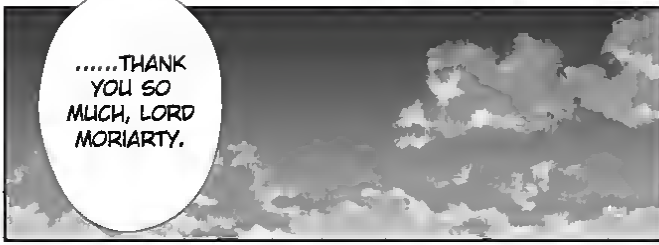
SIGH ...

BY WAY OF APOLOGY FOR YOUR CHILD, MY WILL SAYS: "MY LAND WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THESE FARMERS AFTER MY DEATH"!!
IT SHOULD BE FINE TO DATE IT THREE YEARS EARLIER, YES?!
YES, OF COURSE.
WELL, THIS WILL TAKES EFFECT AFTER MY DEATH.
TO KEEP YOURSELVES SECURE FOR NOW, DON'T COMPLAIN.
I'D TAKE YOU TO COURT, BUT...
.....REALLY... I SERIOUSLY COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED!
I'LL PLACE IT ON THE SAME SHELF AS YOUR MEDICINE
...AS I SAID, YOUR RENT AND DUES ARE DOUBLED STARTING THIS MONTH.
YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK HARDER THAN EVER.

.....
.....
.....HUH ...?
...WHAT'S ...?
I FEEL DIZZY .....
.....AND MY HEAD... HURTS...
...I FORGOT TO MENTION.
YOUR HEART DRUG AND THE FURANOCOUMARIN CLASS OF COMPOUNDS IN GRAPEFRUITS...
WHEN THEY'RE COMBINED, THE EFFECTS OF THE DRUG INCREASE.

SUDDEN DROPS IN BLOOD PRESSURE ARE VERY DANGEROUS.
DO TAKE CARE WHEN ENTERTAIN-ING OVER DRINKS.
...OH, MICHELLE.
GRAPEFRUITS AGAIN?
YOU REALLY LIKE THEM, EH.
FU FU.
EVEN WHEN YOU HAVE HORRIBLE MORNING SICKNESS, YOU CAN STILL EAT THEM.
I SHOULD BECOME A GRAPEFRUIT FARMER ALREADY!
BUT THE CLIMATE HERE IS TERRIBLE FOR THAT, YOU KNOW?
EAT UP AND HAVE A HEALTHY CHILD.

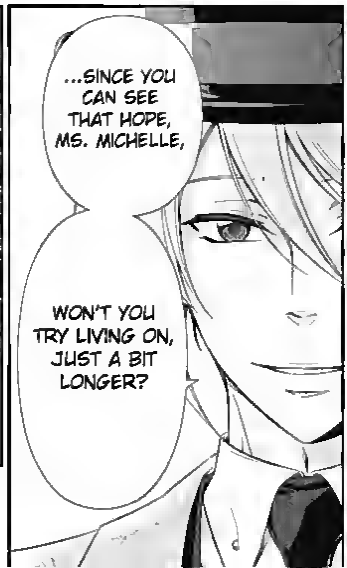
OF COURSE!
—SOME-ONE,
SOMEONE PLEASE COME.
...H-HIS LORD-SHIP ...?!


.....THANK YOU SO MUCH, LORD MORIARTY.

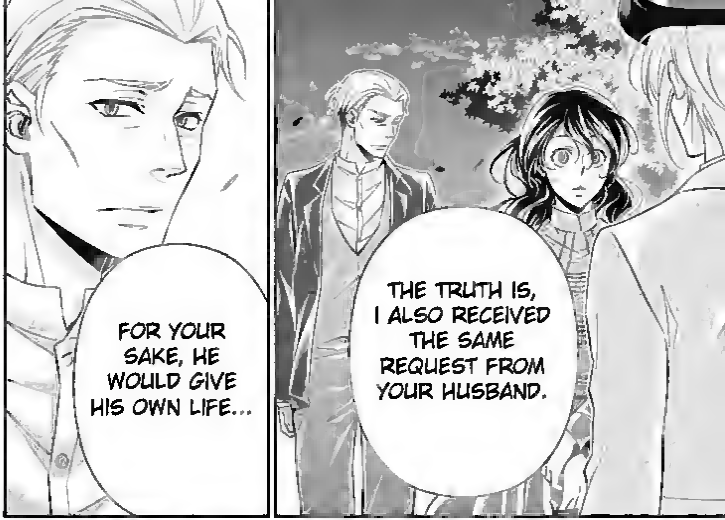
I HUMBLY OFFER
MY LIFE TO YOU.

...I HAVE NO REGRETS.

..... HUH ...?


...SINCE YOU CAN SEE THAT HOPE, MS. MICHELLE,
WON'T YOU TRY LIVING ON, JUST A BIT LONGER?

...I FEEL I CAN SEE A LITTLE BIT OF HOPE IN THIS WORLD...
...TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MEET NOBLES LIKE YOU WITHIN MY LIFE-TIME...
...I'M GLAD TO HAVE HELPED YOU.


FOR YOUR SAKE, HE WOULD GIVE HIS OWN LIFE...
THE TRUTH IS, I ALSO RECEIVED THE SAME REQUEST FROM YOUR HUSBAND.

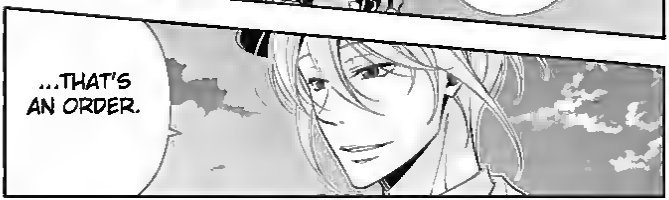
PLEASE DO REMEMBER THAT HE'S IN THIS TOO.
.....!

BY OUR AGREEMENT, I'LL LOOK AFTER YOUR LIVES.
...NO.

YOU GET NOTHING IN RETURN ...?!
... B-BUT ...

THOUGH THE COUNTRY IS STILL AT THE MERCY OF CORRUPT RULERS NOW,
THE BARRIERS OF CLASS WILL VANISH, AND WE'LL SEE A WORLD FREE FROM SORROW AND HATRED
SOME-DAY, SURELY.

THERE-FORE, THOSE LIVES YOU OFFERED ME,
I'D LIKE YOU TO USE THEM TO BEAR WITNESS TO AN IDEAL WORLD.
UNTIL THAT COMES, TAKE CARE OF THEM.


...THAT'S AN ORDER.

...YOU'RE TAKING AWAY MY REASON TO DIE...
...AND EVEN GIVING ME A REASON TO LIVE...
..... I'LL BE WITH YOU...FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE...

...EVEN WE'RE THE SAME.
THEY WON'T BETRAY WILLIAM AS LONG AS THEY LIVE.
THE MOMENT HOPE IS FOUND IN LIFE, DEATH BECOMES A FEAR.
.....
A CRUEL THING TO DO, AS USUAL.
THAT'S HOW FINE A LEADER BROTHER IS...

...HM?
YOU TWO MADE UP?
... THANKS TO HIM.
SO EARLY IN THE MORN-ING
MY, MY, WHAT'S GOING ON?
AH, YES, YOUNG WISE ONE.
I HAVE SOMETHING TO CONSULT YOU ABOUT.
BARTON'S GRAPEFRUITS ARE SO SOUR, I CAN'T SELL THEM AT ALL!
DO SOME-THING ABOUT IT.
THAT'S HARSH, OLD HAG!
BEFORE PUTTING THEM OUT IN YOUR STALL, LET THEM REST A FEW DAYS.
THEY'LL BE SWEETER THAN THEY WERE WHEN FRESHLY PICKED.
OH, REALLY?!

It was a good meal
That pie was delicious, too...
And I was still drinking my wine.
How can these people ?
Hah Hah

憂国のモリアーティ

Translator's note:

These are edited versions of pages I scanlated on my own and originally uploaded to a blog.

Eventually, I started assisting marauderLia with the main chapters, and uploading omake to the group redPhoenixScan on Batoto.

This chapter was entirely my individual work, and is not endorsed by marauderLia.
I only chose to upload it here as backup.

— *The Solitary Hobbyist*

MORIARTY THE PATRIOT

Based on the works of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Storyboards by Ryosuke Takeuchi
Artworks by Hikaru Miyoshi